

# THE LACLEDE BLADE.

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WASHINGTON LETTER.

Our Regular Correspondent Writes From the National Capitol.

It was the old story of shearing a pig, "much cry and little wool," when the house of representatives secured the publication of the "unginned cotton report" from the census office. There was a great turmoil made over this matter in advance and the whole system of government crop reporting was turned upside down when Mr. Crumpacker reported the resolution calling for the information. It was information that would never have been made public by the director of the census of his own accord, a mere guess at the amount of unginned cotton on hand, based on the reports of about half the ginner. When the report came to the house the figures were preceded by a terse statement from the director saying that he was merely complying with the demand of the house, but he did not stand sponsor for the figures in any way. The speaker took a look at the statement and refused to have anything to do with it either, saying that he had enough information to disburse without bothering about misinformation. The sheet was accordingly not even read on the floor, but was carried off by a clerk to the file-room and read, read wrong, as it happened, to the correspondents. They first telegraphed the wrong figures and then had to send a correction of them. Nothing has been gained by this attempt to make the house of representatives the medium for disseminating produce gambling information. The question remains whether any good comes of this government dabbling in crop reports anyhow. Possibly it is just as well, so long as the public will speculate in crops, either foodstuffs or cotton, that the government should collect the statistics and give everyone a measurably even chance at them. If the government would not collect them, they would be gathered by some private agency and possibly the money invested on the produce exchange would be lost by a larger and won by a more restricted group than ever. As the case now stands, the wheat statistics collected by the government are neither so prompt, accurate nor complete as the private report of the great Armour clique in Chicago. Still, the government report helps somewhat to keep a check on the private report, and if speculation were not so fierce it might be of some use to the legitimate trader. But the idea of having such statistics dragged into the house and given out from the Speaker's desk, whether they are correct or not, is a little bizarre to contemplate. It is not likely that there will be any more efforts made in this direction.

A much more humane and practical question than the gathering of crop statistics is being argued out in committee in the house. That is whether the cattle that are being hauled to market shall be subjected to more or less torture before they are killed. As the law stands now, cattle in transit to the great slaughter houses of Omaha and Chicago may not be carried more than 28 hours on the railway without a stop for food and water. This law was long a dead letter, but in the past two years it has been enforced, so far as he was able, by the present secretary of agriculture. The cattle men claim that it does not pay to be so tender of their stock in transit and are urging an extension of the law to 36 hours. They have so far won over the secretary of agriculture that he is willing to allow the extension of the law. But the

humane societies have stepped in and demand that there shall be either more frequent stops or that the cattle shall be transported in cars with feeding and watering accommodations. One solution, if it were proved that the expense involved in treating the cattle decently were really prohibitive, would be to move the slaughter houses closer to the centres of cattle production and thus save the long haul of live cattle altogether. It is really cheaper to haul dressed beef than live cattle and the Big Four makes enough on its refrigerator cars to warrant putting in the additional equipment. But the greed and creed of the cattle buyer makes the addition of even a fraction of a cent on the hundredweight look like an almost criminal waste. There is no doubt at all that if the humane societies had not stepped in and made the fight that the torture of slaughter destined cattle would have been carried exactly to the point where the loss in live weight would have balanced the saving in food and handling. The beef magnate can appreciate inhumanity when it touches his balance sheet, but he is slow to appreciate it before.

The report of the Philippine commission, just made public, shows a decidedly improved condition in the islands. Ladroneism is dying out, and there are but three provinces that can not be considered as pacified. The commission has caught the local officials in Samar practicing the old Spanish formula of robbery and extortion on the natives in regard to the hemp crop and has brought up the offenders with a round turn. It was surprising how quickly the unrest and insurrectionary tendencies of the natives died out when they got this taste of the "square deal." But it was almost pitiful at first to see that they could not understand why a government official should be treating them honestly. However, they resigned themselves to that sort of treatment gladly and now there is much less trouble in Samar. The general condition of the islands is much better. They last year exported \$2,100,000 more and imported \$2,300,000 less than previously, the difference being altogether in the amount of foreign rice that they were not compelled to buy. They saved just \$4,000,000 to the islands by raising this material at home. The currency has been placed on a more stable basis, education and road making are improving, and the future is altogether brighter.

## Frightfully Burned.

Chas. W. Moore, a machinist, of Ford City, Pa., had his hand frightfully burned in an electrical furnace. He applied Bucklen's Arnica Salve with the usual result—"a quick and perfect cure." Greatest healer on earth for burns, wounds, sores, eczema and piles. 25c at W. R. Barton's.

## OPERATIONS KILL.

Before Submitting Yourself to be Butchered Alive, Consult the Specialists.

PERFECT FITTING



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Do you know that hundreds are killed by operations? Do you know that the doctors report to the papers what a "grand success" the operation is by the time the patient comes out of the influence of the chloroform, no matter how miserable he is with something cut out, and even if he dies a few days or a few months later?

An operation is a success, ONLY when it restores the person's health. Do you know that 50 per cent of the women that are operated on and have the ovaries removed, land in the insane asylum in a few years? Did you ever think of it, after a woman has been operated on, she quits work and rests for a year or two? Did it ever occur to you that if she had lived the same easy life and not been operated on, she might have improved as much? Some operations do good, but there are thousands killed by needless cutting.

As examinations are made without charge, is it not advisable to take the necessary steps, and investigate a treatment that has merit, as results prove time and time again?

Here again Saturday, February 17, at the Foreman.

## "Pie Politics."

Linn Creek Revellie.

We hope the republican press of Missouri will not merit the aspersion of being republican for revenue only, or elbowing for a place at the pie counter. All this howl about "rotation in office" and "third term postmasters" comes of the rotten brand of politics which is just now being shoveled out the back door of several states. Honesty and efficiency are what the people pay for and what they are going to have, as soon as they learn what they want. If an official grows corrupt, "rotate" him. If he outlives his usefulness, pension him. But don't "rotate" a man out of office, just to make room for "somebody's darling." A man in office improves with every year of service, as long as he retains his faculties, and why a third term or a thirtieth term should give anyone hydrophobia was always a worse puzzle to us than "How old is Ann?"

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# Robes and Blankets.

My line of robes and blankets is the largest and most complete ever brought to Laclede—largest assortment and lowest prices.

I again have the Beckman line this year direct from the mills, thus saving the jobber's profit.

Remember the line is full and complete and strictly up-to-date, from the cheap square blankets to the best 5-A storm kings, including a fine line of brown duck stable and lumberman's blankets.

I have a strong line of plush and wool robes, good weight, large size, fancy patterns. Come in and see my stock of winter goods.

Remember I bought these goods direct from the mill and saved from 12 1/2 to 20 per cent. on them and am going to give the public the benefit of it.

**O. F. LIBBY, Jr.,**

Laclede, - - - Missouri.

# Announcement!

For the benefit of our patrons, we have secured and have now on sale a large shipment of the celebrated Cooper Remedies. We will gladly explain the nature of these remarkable preparations to all who call at our store. Cooper's New Discovery will be sold for \$1.00 per bottle, three for \$2.50, six for \$5.00. Cooper's Quick Relief, the assistant remedy, 50c. per bottle. Cooper's New Discovery and Quick Relief are the medicines with which Mr. L. T. Cooper made his famous cures in St. Louis. They can be used in the home of the patient with the same results as though applied personally by Mr. Cooper. They cure Rheumatism, Catarrh, Stomach Trouble, Kidney Disease, Nervousness, Paralysis, Catarrhal Deafness, and all diseases of the blood. We have the sole agency for the sale of the Cooper remedies in this city.

**DR. J. T. STEPHENSON,**  
Laclede, Missouri.